## Letter to an American:

## WHY ARE YOU HATED? WHY ARE YOU LOVED?

**Victor Saltero** 



It's quite possible, American, that it has not yet dawned on you that you are the result of the most peculiar and passionate social affair of all times. Also born from this affair are all those special characteristics that make you the most vital and energetic society currently on the planet. Curiously and simultaneously, you are the most hated and the most loved.

What do your enemies have to say about you?

The haters accuse you of being imperialists. Ironically, these are often the same leftist politicians and media, who suffer from selective amnesia, as they were the leaders of the political trend that conquered half of Europe after the Second World War, while you were returning home.

They accuse you of lacking culture and yet they all want to send their children to study in your universities.

They accuse you of being wasteful consumers without considering that were not for your consumerism, aided by your easily obtained credit cards, half of Asians, Europeans and Latin Americans would be filling up the unemployment lines.

They accuse you of being militaristic, but they seem to forget that they were the ones that asked you to spill your blood for them when they were being attacked by Hitler, or the Japanese.

Their selective amnesia meets no boundaries as they accuse you of being Puritans, conveniently forgetting that in the last half century, all liberation movements for women, sex, etc., have sprung from the freshness of your society.

Of all the things they accuse you of being, we have to admit that one is most definitely true: you are intolerant. In Europe (and even more so in the rest of the world) we would never have thrown out a president for lying. In fact, we don't even get rid of the many public officials that are lining their pockets with money from hard working, taxpaying citizens. Obviously, the rest of the world is much more "tolerant" which, no doubt delights our politicians and shames our society.

Where does this hatred stem from and why?

All this hatred that is showered upon you, is planted and grown by political leftists and Islamists.

The political left basically unfolds in the West, and you, American, represent the constant reminder of its spectacular fall. This occurred when the Soviet Union collapsed, after having been the world leader of Socialism for over 70 years. With its powerful sources of propaganda, it had predicted the fall of capitalism led by USA, and thus the inescapable triumph of socialism as advocated by Marx and Engels. When in the end, the result was quite the contrary, their frustration and hatred deepened, as they perceived this with a sense of defeat. So, as a manifestation of said hatred, and to this day, they make use of every opportunity to criticize and ridicule your country, which they consider to be responsible for their debacle. Strangely enough, your generous self-criticism largely aids them in their attack towards you.

In a nutshell, in the Western World, the political leftists continue to see you with the bitterness of the defeated. Add to that, the fact that they are the defenders of the macrostates, which is the antithesis of everything you believe in. This is why they never miss an opportunity to use the media to put you down, mainly from Europe and Latin America, where, after the demise of communism, the people associated with it immersed in the various socialist parties, as the only means to continue to access those in Power.

Now, when it comes to the Muslim world, they hate you for entirely different reasons. The historical anachronism that this society is living goes much beyond the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is why their leaders perceive the information and images from the West as a threat. The information and images are manifestations of a world that is very different from their own, and that jeopardizes the stability of the political and religious power of their states. Due to the effect of globalization, information is disclosed to them and allows them to see a society where the rights of women and men are equal, where the rulers are judged by the people that elected them, where citizens are not subjects, where torture and slavery have been abolished, and where religions remain private. These facts represent a direct threat to the basis supporting the power of the Muslim rulers. They react

defensively by instilling fanatism in their citizens via their religion. They take advantage of the lack of education and point to the Western World as an enemy; an enemy that is led by you, American.

In short, you are hated for your leadership status in the Western civilization. So, let's reflect briefly on what we call Western Civilization to better understand its differences with the others:

I should start by pointing out that describing the characteristics of our civilization is quite difficult. Nevertheless, we can all perfectly differentiate it from the Islamic or Asian cultures, because these feed primarily on religious tradition and repetition, only taking essential elements from the West.

In our culture, rationalization is imposed on religion and customs, and it also has several other peculiarities that others lack; one of the most notable being our constant self-criticism, which, among other things, has lead to the abolition of slavery, has established the foundation of human rights, women's rights, equality of the races, acknowledged life as a fundamental value, and so forth and so on. No other civilization has contributed so much to the evolution of individual rights, and it is at times grudgingly that they adhere to them.

Another characteristic of Western thought is that there is no such thing as absolute truths, and the sense that societies have no permanence or destination points, only paths to move on. These are the peculiarities that make you the most dynamic civilization currently on Earth, and that, in turn, make you an object of hatred from those that are based on tradition and religion. As the leaders of Western society, you inevitably pick up the brunt of those grudges.

What makes you different from other Western countries?

The main difference is in your origin. Throughout the history of mankind, the main reasons for migration have been hunger, wars, or natural disasters. In your case, however, the main reason has been the desire to find ample space and the freedom in which to develop and prosper.

North America received entire families; some with strong religious convictions, some with adventurers, others with criminals and dreamers, and all of them united by the desire to improve and start a new life in freedom and in a new land. These various components, along with the ethnic mix that is still occurring, eventually managed to crystallize, in an almost unheard of manner, into what you are today: the society with the most freedom and energy in all the world.

When the pilgrims left behind the old world, they did so to escape from the control of the European states and religious persecution. They came to the East Coast where they found an immense and almost empty land, and they stayed, with their goals and intentions set on prospering.

Because there were neither states nor established government, this brought society back to square one for the settling colonists, so they created their own rules of conduct which they set forth in a letter of commitment to stay together. This letter would become the embryo of what later became your Constitution.

Over the years, as the number of settlers increased, some citizens were selected to perform public service tasks such as police and firefighters. They also designated representatives with the purpose of joining other similar colonies. This is the actual source of your current national political structures, including Government, Senate and Congress.

Believe it or not, this situation had never occurred before in the history of mankind. Evidently, it will not happen again because this would require finding low-density areas on our planet (these no longer exist), where people could settle down trying to get away from oppressive governments.

To give you a better idea of the uniqueness of the origin of your society, let's compare it to the emigration from which Latin America was born. Because the form and motivations were profoundly different, the results were therefore catastrophically different: In Southern and Central America, the source of emigration was mainly from the Iberian Peninsula, which was living in the full feudal era. Most of these so-called conquerors went to these lands with the sole purpose of becoming rich in order to be able to purchase large farms in Spain so they could be like the noble aristocrats. With this in mind, they

planned very short trips and traveled without their families. They did, however, bring all the defects and flaws from the Iberian society that was directed by the feudal aristocracy. Thus, the social structures of the countries of origin of these conquerors were repeated, mimicking the most alienating customs, such as the picaresque, social passivity, subservience to the powerful, ignorance, religious superstition and the creation of new aristocracies that are currently represented by small groups of people who control power in that part of the American continent.

In short, as a product of those roots, they continue to be underdeveloped societies where man is still a subject or non-citizen, and where the most rancid chieftaincy is perpetuated. This is the reason why these societies become such an easy target for the propaganda and demagoguery of despotic socialism.

At all times and in all countries of the world – yours excluded -, the rights of citizens have been considered as property of Public Authorities, some of which were granted for reasons of strategy or image.

To sum it up, in the history of mankind, it has always been the States that grant rights to citizens. In your case, it is the quite the opposite: your citizens have created the State, and therefore they control it.

As you can see, the direction of the source of power is absolutely essential where the freedom of individuals and societies is concerned. When rights are granted by the State, citizens tend to consider themselves subjects of that State. In ancient times, States were represented by absolute monarchies, and today they are represented by political parties that have assumed almost all the powers that these monarchies had. Occasionally they make adjustments with elections in order to create a sense of democratic legitimacy. The reality is, however, that in most of the world, including Europe, it is the elites of the political parties that hold the executive, legislative and judicial branches in their hands, which is the same thing that the old autocracies did. And so just like in ancient times, the ordinary citizens of these societies continue to feel like subjects, and, just like the ancients approached nobles seeking perks, modern man now seeks perks from political parties.

These practices result in a huge dose of corruption, and the perpetuation of a mediocre and apathetic society. As the product of conformity, societies are convinced that the socio-political structures in which they live are immovable, because this is the way it has always been.

Allow me to provide some examples in order to demonstrate what I have previously described here: tell me, American, how many thinkers, musicians, writers, or philosophers do you know, that were born in the Soviet Union during the seventy years of its existence? And of the few that existed, how many do you know, did not end their days in gulag?

Societies become a wasteland of creativity when the states have complete control over them, as was the case of the former Soviet Union. But, even in Europe we have been seeing these same symptoms for some time, because the states of the old continent have enormous control over the economy, and through it, over society and its citizens.

To justify these macro states that castrate the freedom of individuals, they use euphemisms such as Welfare Society, Solidarity, Social Justice, Progress and other beautiful expressions with which, as generic principles - not in the way they are applied – we all agree. The problem is the manner in which these beautiful theories are executed, as they inevitably lead to mammoth-like states, with pharaonic, bureaucratic structures endlessly consuming all financial resources, thus exhausting the societies and individuals they profess to protect. Citizens are assaulted with taxes, parents are told what schools their children may attend, what doctors will care for them if they become ill, and they promise to pay them a retirement pension some day, provided there are available funds. The end result is a system of equal consequence, not of equal opportunity, and that discourages dies. people from striving to improve; thus talent Since the end of World War II, much of the world, including Europe, is implementing this immersion in socialism. Since then, the reality of our creative ability (not to mention that of the rest of the world), is brain-dead. You, American, are the leader of all innovative movements, technical, social, etc. The rest of us follow, and when we can, we ride along.

In short, the fact that your society has more freedom than any other existing society, makes it the most creative and energetic. The rest of us, other than trying to follow your lead, look at you with envy, and sometimes with rancor.

But we also love you. Why?

Because yours is the only society where the real source of power is the people and not the State. That gives you freedom, and therefore makes you more creative, entrepreneurial, and independent. This confirms the certainty that doing well in life is directly related to the effort and talent that you invest to achieve it.

People like Steve Jobs or Mark Zuckerberg would have languished in the corseted European society. They would not have gotten so much as a single investor or political power to receive them, if only for their special personalities. What great things we would have missed!

Due to the multiple opportunities available in your country, many of the growing talents in the world arrive there with the hope of flourishing. That speaks volumes about the virtues of their host society.

Surely, no society is perfect and yours is not the exception, but, among the many that have sprouted throughout the history of man on Earth, yours is the one that has provided the most positive development for the individual.

By their very nature, States tend to grab more power and usurp the freedom of the people using the broadest and more suggestive arguments: security, solidarity, and progress. As soon as you condone it, your decadence begins.

You, American, are providing the rest of humanity with ideas and products that grow out of your mixed culture, your efforts and talents, your enjoyment of music, entertainment and cinema, your technological advances that facilitate communication across the globe, but above all, from the dreams of hope, from knowing that things can be done differently.

It has been said that out of every thousand of those that try, only one reaches the American dream. Even if this is true, at least the other nine-hundred and ninety-nine have access to the hope of reaching it. The alternative is the one presented by the rest of the countries: it is not even worth trying and therefore it is better to accept failure in advance. Well, dearest friend, I must finish this letter as it is late and the last of the logs have nearly extinguished in my fireplace.

Nevertheless, in a few weeks, I will write to you again. There are dark clouds looming on both your horizon and ours, and I wish to expose in detail my concerns regarding this important issue. I will propose to you, American, a beautiful **challenge** that I believe only you are capable of coping with. Until then,

Affectionately,

Víctor Saltero

